

Georgia Bureau of Investigation

New Fees for GCIC Criminal History Record Checks

Revised Fees

Due to significant revenue shortfalls in the State of Georgia, the Georgia Crime Information Center (GCIC) will increase fees for fingerprint based criminal history record checks effective July 1, 2009. The new fees are as follows:

	<u>Current fee</u>	<u>New fee</u>
Georgia Only Record Check	\$15.00	\$20.75
Georgia & FBI Record Check	\$19.25	\$40.00
Criminal History Record Expungement	\$ 0.00	\$25.00

GBI will continue to waive the state fee for fingerprint-based record checks for state agency employment (this waiver does not apply to contractors employed by state agencies). There is no charge for Georgia and FBI criminal history checks for criminal justice employment.

Name-based Record Checks

Name-based searches use biographic information (name, date of birth, sex and social security number). This is not the most reliable way of obtaining a criminal history record as search results are not based on positive biometric identification and can result in false positives (records are falsely attributed to the individual) or false negatives (records belonging to the individual are not identified).

A consent form prescribed by GCIC is required for private individuals and businesses requesting criminal history records based on a name search. However, criminal history records of in-state felony convictions, pleas, and sentences are available without consent of the individual. Local agencies can provide name-based searches for a fee not to exceed \$20.00 per person (O.C.G.A. §§ 35-3-34 and 35-3-35).

Fingerprint-based Record Checks

Fingerprint-based searches use the unique prints of the person and are the most reliable method of obtaining criminal history records as search results are based on positive biometric identification. Non-criminal justice entities that wish to obtain a national criminal history record via a fingerprint-based search must have a state statute approved under Public Law 92-544 that authorizes FBI checks for specified licensing/employment purposes.

Electronic Submission of Non-Criminal Justice Record Checks

Electronic submissions of fingerprints are accepted by the GBI from approved live scan devices operated by an employing/licensing agency, a law enforcement agency that provides electronic fingerprint services or through the Georgia Applicant Processing Services (GAPS).

Georgia Applicant Processing Services (GAPS)

The GAPS program was implemented in November 2007 to expedite the needs of employment/licensing agencies in providing statewide fingerprint services for non-criminal justice purposes. Any Georgia agency or business with an Originating Agency Identifier (ORI) or Georgia Originating Agency Code (OAC) obtained from GBI may participate in the GAPS program upon enrollment with Cogent Systems at www.ga.cogentid.com. A vendor fee of \$12.90 is charged in addition to the fingerprint criminal history check fee. The GAPS provides the following services:

- Georgia residents will not have to travel more than 30 miles for fingerprinting services;
- Individuals have the option of registering via a toll free phone number (1-888-439-2512) or through the GAPS website;
- Search results are available within 24-48 hours and are accessible via the GAPS secure website;
- GAPS fingerprint locations are in a non-law enforcement environment;
- Mobile services are available for large groups of applicants (at additional costs) and
- GAPS handles all collection of fees which eliminates the need for agencies to collect and process fees for fingerprint-based checks.

Additional Information

Questions regarding criminal history background checks should be directed to GCIC Criminal History / Identification Services at gacriminalhistory@gbi.ga.gov or 404 -244-2639.